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Serial No. 10/791,429
60130-1940; 03MRA0093IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A roof rack assembly for a vehicle comprising:
a plurality of recesses within a roof surface;
a plurality of rack elements movable between a stowed position where at least a portion of each of said plurality of rack elements is are-disposed received within said plurality of recesses such that said plurality of rack elements and said roof surface comprise a continuous uninterrupted surface below a plane defined by a roof surface, and a deployed position where said plurality of rack elements are spaced away from said plane roof surface.
2. (CANCELLED)
3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in ~~claim 2~~claim 1, wherein said plurality of recesses are formed as a continuous portion of said roof surface with each recess being defined by surfaces that are non-perpendicular to a plane defined by said roof surface.
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 3, wherein at least a portion of each of said plurality of recesses are is disposed below said plane.
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 3, wherein said plurality of rack elements are stowable at least partially within said plurality of recesses when in said stowed position such that ~~with~~ a portion of each of said plurality of rack elements are is disposed ~~below~~ above said plane.
6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 3, wherein a portion of said plurality of rack elements ~~comprise~~comprises a portion of said continuous uninterrupted~~roof~~ surface.
7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of rack elements ~~comprise~~comprises a generally oval shape.

BEST AVAILABLE COPYSerial No. 10/791,429
60130-1940; 03MRA0093

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said plurality of rack elements comprise lateral and longitudinal elements.
9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 1, comprising a drive and a plurality of supports driven by said drive and attached to said plurality of rack elements for moving said plurality of rack elements between said stowed position and said deployed position positions.
10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A roof module assembly for a vehicle comprising:
a roof surface that defines a plane and a plurality of recesses disposed below said plane, each of said plurality of recesses being defined by a surfaces that are non-perpendicular to said plane; and
a corresponding plurality of rack elements that are movable between a stowed position wherein said plurality of rack elements are at least partially received within said plurality of recesses and a deployed position where said plurality of rack elements are spaced apart from said roof surface.
11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 10, wherein a portion of each of said plurality of rack elements are is received within a corresponding one of said plurality of recesses recess and another portion of each of said plurality of rack elements is disposed at least partially above said plane when in said stowed position.
12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in ~~claim 11~~ claim 10, wherein ~~said~~ a portion of each of said plurality of recesses recess below said plane comprises an uninterrupted transition with said roof surface.
13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 10, wherein each of said plurality of rack elements form a portion of said roof surface of said roof assembly.
14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 10, wherein said plurality of rack elements comprise longitudinal and lateral members.

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Serial No. 10/791,429
60130-1940; 03MRA0093

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 10, comprising a drive and a plurality of supports driven by said drive and attached to at least some of said plurality of rack elements for moving said plurality of rack elements between said stowed position and said deployed position positions.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 10, wherein each of said plurality of rack elements ~~emprise~~ comprises an oval cross-section, and wherein each of said plurality of recesses ~~emprise~~ comprises a shape corresponding to said plurality of rack elements ~~oval shape~~.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A roof rack assembly for a vehicle comprising:
a plurality of rack elements movable between a stowed position where at least a portion of each of said plurality of rack elements are disposed below ~~a surface of~~ a vehicle roof such that each of said plurality of rack elements and said vehicle roof comprise a continuous uninterrupted exterior surface, and a deployed position where said plurality of rack elements are spaced apart from ~~the surface of the said~~ vehicle roof; and wherein each of said plurality of rack elements ~~emprising~~ comprises ~~an~~ a substantially oval cross-section.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 17, comprising an electric motor and a plurality of supports driven by said electric motor and attached to at least some of said plurality of rack elements for driving said plurality of rack elements between said stowed position and said deployed position positions.

19. (CANCELLED)